

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-53 are pending in the present application. Claims 16-53 are added by the present amendment without adding new matter and Claims 16-53 read on Species 1, Figure 1.

Claims 16-53 are added to set forth the invention in a varying scope and Applicants submit the new claims are supported by the originally filed specification, for example Figure 1.

In response to the Election Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, Species I, Claims 16-53 for further examination on the merits.

Applicants respectfully traverse the Election Requirement because the PTO has not carried forward its burden of proof to establish that searching and examining all claims would be an undue burden.

In particular, MPEP § 803 states:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

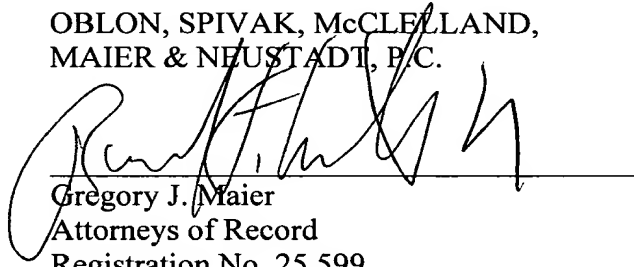
The claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Election Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a *serious* burden on the Examiner.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, and in light of the above comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by Claims 1-53, is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable reconsideration of this application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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